

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-7 (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) A process for storing and updating control unit data, ~~including a program code for the sequence control or characteristic diagram control of at least one control unit of a vehicle, in a memory assigned to the control unit;~~ said process comprising the acts of:

~~a storing or updating system~~ reading, by a storing or updating system, the control unit data out of a data carrier; and

~~the storing or updating system~~ causing, the storing or updating system, control unit data to be stored in the memory assigned to the control unit, ~~[[;]]~~ wherein the process is carried out under control of a program-controlled microprocessor; ~~and~~

~~the storing or updating system accesses~~ accessing, by the storing or updating system, vehicle characterizing data; and

~~reads~~ reading out, by the storing or updating system, from a plurality of control unit data stored on the data carrier, control unit data for a

vehicle indicated by ~~means of~~ the vehicle characterizing data or for its control units, for storing and/or updating, ~~and~~

wherein the data carrier has stored therein a storing and/or updating instruction for storing or updating sequence control in said microprocessor.

9. (Currently Amended) The process according to Claim 8, wherein ~~at least one of the following is true:~~ the control unit data stored on the data carrier ~~have been~~ is encrypted, or ~~and the control unit data have been provided with control data which protect~~ is protected against falsification.

10. (Currently Amended) The process according to Claim 9, wherein ~~a~~ the storing or updating system ~~performs at least one of the following:~~

[[it]] decrypts the control unit data read out of the data carrier, [[; it]] checks the integrity of control unit data readout of the data carrier, or [[; it]] causes an updating or replacement of control unit data when the decrypting is correct or when integrity is determined.

11. (Previously Presented) The process according Claim 8, wherein control unit data stored in a control unit include information characterizing their authenticity or version.

12. (Currently Amended) The process according to Claim 8, wherein the storing and/or updating of the control unit data is carried out only after a corresponding release by an authorization system, ~~the authorization system preferably being~~ under control of a vehicle manufacturer of the corresponding vehicle.

13. (Previously Presented) The process according to Claim 8, wherein one of a vehicle identification number and data characterizing the control unit data of a corresponding vehicle are stored in a computer data bank.

14. (Previously Presented) A system for storing and/or updating control unit data, including a program code for sequence control or characteristic-diagram control of at least one control unit of a motor vehicle, which are stored in a memory assigned to the control unit, said system comprising:

interface means for reading the control unit data out of a data carrier; and

a data processor which causes control unit data to be stored in the memory assigned to the control unit, wherein,

the data processor is coupled in data communication with the interface means for causing it to read selected control unit data from said data carrier and transmit said control unit data to said data processor; and

the data processor is also coupled in data communication with said control unit via a data bus system in said vehicle, and communicates said control unit data to said control unit via said data bus system in accordance with instructions read from said data carrier, for storing and/or updating sequence control in said data processor.

15. (Previously Presented) A computer program product which can be loaded directly into internal memory of a storing or updating system, including a digital computer, wherein said program product has program sections for implementing a process according to Claim 8, when the product is running on the storing or updating system.

16. (Currently Amended) A method of inputting control unit data into a control unit in a vehicle, ~~that has an on-board system including a reader unit~~

~~which can read data from a removable data carrier, and a data bus that couples~~
~~said on board system with said control unit;~~ said method comprising the acts of:

~~said reader unit of said on board system~~ reading, by a reader unit of a
system on-board of the vehicle, the control unit data out of ~~said a~~ a data carrier;

communicating said control unit data to said control unit via said data
bus; and

storing said control unit data in a memory associated with said control
unit, wherein the control unit data includes program code for sequence control or
characteristic diagram control of the control unit.

17. (Original) The method according to Claim 16, wherein said on board
system comprises one of a vehicle navigation system, an audio system and a
video system.

18. (Original) The method according to Claim 16, wherein said carrier
comprises one of a CD-ROM, a DVD, a compact disk, a holographic data
memory, a fixed disk, a solid state memory, a flash memory, a chip card and an
EE-PROM.

19. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 16, wherein [[:]] said carrier contains control unit data applicable to a plurality of vehicles, [[:]] and said act of reading step is controlled by a microprocessor which reads vehicle characterizing information from a memory, and causes said reader unit to read from said carrier, only control unit data that are applicable to particular vehicle control units.

20. (Original) The method according to Claim 19, wherein said characterizing information is stored in a memory maintained by a manufacturer of the vehicle.

21. (Previously Presented) Apparatus for storing and updating control unit data in a memory associated with a control unit that is coupled into a network of control units in a vehicle, said apparatus comprising:

an interface device for reading control unit data from a transportable and removable memory unit;

a data processor device coupled to communicate with said interface device;
and

a high speed data link which couples said control unit with said data processor device and with a plurality of additional control units which collectively form the network of control units in said vehicle;

wherein said data processor device is programmed to cause said interface device to read selected control unit data from a memory unit coupled in communication with said interface device, and to communicate said selected control unit data to said control unit via said high speed data link.

22. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to Claim 21, wherein:

said data processor device is a program controlled microprocessor; and

said microprocessor reads from said memory unit and processes instructions for storing or updating control unit data.

23. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to Claim 22, wherein said instructions comprise a storing or updating sequence control.

24. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to Claim 21, wherein said microprocessor is programmed to read from said memory unit only control data which are designated as applicable to the vehicle.

25. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 14, wherein:

the data processor comprises a program-controlled microprocessor; and

the data carrier has stored therein a storing and/or updating instruction for storing and/or updating sequence control in said microprocessor.